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Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly

Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

During the period under review, owing to logistical and other difficulties, the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa held only one ministerial meeting. At the conclusion of that meeting, the Advisory Committee adopted the Brazzaville Declaration on the situation between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda, by which it, inter alia, welcomed the decision of the two Governments to continue efforts aimed at reopening their respective embassies and encouraged them to complete that positive step. The Committee also endorsed the decision taken at the ministerial meeting of the Tripartite Commission of the Democratic Republic of the Congo-Rwanda-Uganda, held in Kigali on 24 and 25 August 2005, to give the Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda an ultimatum to disarm voluntarily by September 2005. In addition to adopting the Brazzaville Declaration, the Committee took note with interest of the report submitted by the secretariat of the Economic Community of Central African States on its activities in the areas of peace, security and stability. It also adopted its programme of work for 2005-2006.

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I. Introduction

1. By its resolution 60/87, entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa", the General Assembly, inter alia, reaffirmed its support for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in Central Africa and to further sustainable peace, stability and development in the subregion. It also reaffirmed its support for the programme of work of the Advisory Committee adopted at the organizational meeting of the Committee, held in Yaoundé in July 1992 (see A/47/511).

2. By the same resolution, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue to provide the States members of the Advisory Committee with assistance to ensure that they are able to carry on their efforts. It also requested the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to continue to provide their full assistance for the proper functioning of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa. In addition, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to continue to provide increased assistance to the countries of Central Africa for coping with the problems of refugees and displaced persons in their territories. Moreover, the Assembly called upon the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its sixty-first session a report on the implementation of the resolution.

3. The present report is submitted in compliance with that request. It covers the activities undertaken by the United Nations and the Advisory Committee since the submission of the last report on the subject (A/60/166).

II. Meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee

4. The Advisory Committee held its 23rd ministerial meeting in Brazzaville from 29 August to 2 September 2005 (see A/60/393-S/2005/616). Its agenda included: (a) recent geopolitical and security developments in selected States members of the Committee, including Burundi, the Central African Republic, Chad and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the situation between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda; (b) exchange of experiences in the implementation of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes in various States members of the Committee; (c) review of the implementation of the Brazzaville Declaration on the Implementation in Central Africa of the Dar-es-Salaam Declaration on Peace, Security, Democracy and Development in the Great Lakes Region; and (d) status of the preparations for the Bahr-el-Ghazal joint military exercise which were scheduled to take place in November 2005.

5. All 11 States Members of the Advisory Committee, namely, Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Rwanda and Sao Tome and Principe, participated in the meeting.

6. The Advisory Committee welcomed the peaceful conduct of communal, legislative, senatorial and presidential elections in Burundi. While welcoming and warmly congratulating the people and leaders of the Central African Republic on the

maturity they had displayed through the peaceful conduct of the presidential elections, the Committee, nevertheless, expressed grave concern over the continued precarious security and humanitarian situation, notably in the northern areas of the country. The Committee welcomed the progress made in the implementation of the transition process in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, bearing in mind the difficulties that had led to the extension of the transition period beyond June 2005. The Committee encouraged the Independent Electoral Commission to forge ahead with the preparation of the elections. It also welcomed the vigorous action taken by the armed forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to disarm the militias and improve security in the eastern part of the country.

7. Regarding the situation in Chad, the Advisory Committee welcomed the agreement of 21 August 2005, by which 600 combatants of the armed faction of the Mouvement pour la démocratie et la justice au Tchad (MDJT) realigned themselves with the Government. The Committee encouraged the Government to pursue its efforts towards reconciliation of all the citizens of Chad. With regard to the preparations for the Bahr-el-Ghazal joint military exercise, the Committee welcomed the offer by Angola and Cameroon to provide transport for troops from other countries as well as the offer from Cameroon and Gabon to provide Chad with air and ground logistics necessary for conducting the exercise. The Committee welcomed the confirmation by all member States during the meeting of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, held in Luanda on 13 and 14 April 2005, that they would be participating in the exercise.

8. At the conclusion of its meeting, the Advisory Committee adopted the Brazzaville Declaration on the situation between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda by which it, inter alia, welcomed the decision of the two Governments to continue efforts aimed at reopening their respective embassies and encouraged them to complete that positive step. The Committee also endorsed the decision taken at the ministerial meeting of the Tripartite Commission of the Democratic Republic of the Congo-Rwanda-Uganda, held in Kigali on 24 and 25 August 2005, to give the Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda (FDLR) an ultimatum to disarm voluntarily by September 2005.

III. Action by the United Nations

9. During the period under review, the Department for Disarmament Affairs continued to provide secretariat services to the Advisory Committee. In that regard, it assisted the Committee with the organization of its 23rd ministerial meeting and tried, to no avail, to raise funds to enable the Committee to implement its programme of activities for the period 2005-2006. In addition, the Department continued to encourage States members of the Committee to implement the 2001 Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects. To that end, during the 2006 United Nations conference to review progress made in the implementation of the programme of action, the Department, in collaboration with the Small Arms and Demobilization Unit of the United Nations Development Programme and a number of donor countries, sponsored the participation in the conference of some of the most affected States members of the Committee.

10. Meanwhile, the Department for Political Affairs and UNHCHR continued to provide support to the United Nations Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy. The Centre, which is located in Yaoundé, commenced its work in March 2001. The core activities carried out by the Centre during the reporting period include: training, advisory services and technical cooperation, internship programme, human rights education and support to the peace processes.

11. Specifically, as a follow-up to the seminar for Pygmy communities held in Yaoundé and Sangmelima Mekas, Cameroon, in November 2002, on "Minorities and indigenous peoples' rights", the Centre, in collaboration with the OHCHR Anti-Discrimination Unit in Geneva, organized a seminar on the role of civil society in the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, in Libreville in July 2005. The Centre also continued to provide technical cooperation to Governments and national institutions, upon request. Established national human rights institutions have already benefited from that assistance, for example, in Cameroon. Institutions in the process of being formally established, such as those in the Congo and Equatorial Guinea, were provided with modest support.

12. UNHCR also continued to provide assistance to the following States members of the Advisory Committee: Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon and Rwanda. During the reporting period, as a result of the conflict in Darfur, the Sudan, UNHCR expanded its operations in Chad and offered protection to some 750,000 refugees and asylum-seekers and assisted more than 470,000 persons in 2005 in the Central Africa and Great Lakes region. In addition, it facilitated the return of over 90,000 refugees to the countries in the region, while another estimated 25,000 persons returned of their own accord.[1]

IV. Programme of activities for 2005-2006

13. For its programme of activities for the period 2005-2006, the Advisory Committee envisaged the following activities: the convening of its 23rd and 24th ministerial meetings; the organization of a meeting of experts from States members of the Committee to discuss the issues of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration; small arms and light weapons; cross-border problems; security-sector reform; and the organization of a seminar on the involvement of civil society in the implementation of the Programme of Priority Activities on small arms, adopted in Brazzaville in 2003. However, owing to the difficulties faced in raising the necessary funds for its activities, during the reporting period, the Committee was able to convene only its 23rd ministerial meeting. The 24th ministerial meeting will be held in Kigali from 25 to 29 September 2006. The Department for Disarmament Affairs is still seeking sponsors for the convening of the meeting of experts and the seminar referred to above.

[1] See *UNHCR Global Report 2005*.

V. Administrative and financial matters

14. During the period under review, the General Assembly continued to provide funding from the regular budget for two ministerial meetings, while UNHCR continued to finance the activities of the United Nations Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa.

15. The Secretary-General reiterates his appeal to Member States, intergovernmental, governmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the Trust Fund of the Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa in order to enable the Advisory Committee to fully implement its programme of work.

VI. Conclusions and observations

16. **In recent years, financial support for the Advisory Committee's activities seems to be waning, resulting in its inability to fully implement its programme of work. Notwithstanding that situation, the Committee continues to play an important role in the promotion of peace and security in the Central African region. Sustained support to the Committee's activities, most of which is funded from voluntary contributions, is critical to ensure its ability to continue to discharge its mandate in the future.**

17. **States members of the Advisory Committee need to assume full ownership of the activities of the Committee. In that regard, it is critical that the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa (established in June 2000) and its structures, in particular its early-warning mechanism, becomes operational. It is also vital that the capacity of the secretariat of the Economic Community of Central African States is strengthened so as to enable it to spearhead the implementation of the various declarations, decisions and recommendations of the Committee.**

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Security Council

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General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda item 13
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixty-first year

Identical letters dated 20 September 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On the instructions of my Government, I transmit to you herewith a list of Israeli acts of aggression against Lebanon that took place between 17 September and 20 September 2006 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 13, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Caroline **Ziade**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the identical letters dated 20 September 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Subject: Israeli violations and acts of aggression against Lebanon from 0800 hours on 17 September 2006 to 0800 hours on 18 September 2006

Air violations

There were three air violations by enemy Israeli warplanes and reconnaissance aircraft reported over various Lebanese areas.

At 0847 hours, two enemy Israeli warplanes violated Lebanese airspace over Kfar Kila. They circled over the southern regions and Iqlim al-Kharoub, and left Lebanese airspace at 0905 hours over the occupied Shab'a farmlands.

Between 1145 hours and 1330 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft overflew the Tebnine, Tyre and Bent Jbail areas.

At 1803 hours, an enemy Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Al-Naqoura. It circled over the South region, and left Lebanese airspace at 2155 hours over Aalma al-Chaab.

Land violations

At 1600 hours, two bulldozers belonging to the Israeli enemy crossed the Blue Line going approximately 50 metres in the direction of Lebanese territory, opposite the town of Yarine. They engaged in earthmoving activities, and at 1745 they departed in the direction of occupied Palestinian territory.

In the wake of the Israeli enemy's use of cluster bombs against residential areas during its attacks on Lebanon many of these bombs have been reported to have exploded, resulting in injury to two persons during the period in question:

On 18 September 2006 at 0400 hours in the city of Al-Nabatiye, a cluster bomb left behind by the Israeli enemy exploded, resulting in multiple injuries to Ridwan Ghundur and his wife Fatin 'Ali Ahmad (their condition is not serious).

Subject: Israeli violations and acts of aggression against Lebanon from 0800 hours on 18 September 2006 to 0800 hours on 19 September 2006

Air violations

There were three air violations by enemy Israeli warplanes and reconnaissance aircraft reported over various Lebanese areas:

At 1017 hours, two Israeli warplanes violated Lebanese airspace over the occupied Shab'a farmlands in a northerly direction as far as Dahr al-Baidar. They then proceeded west and circled over the South. They then proceeded north to Beirut

and circled over Beirut, the South and the western Bekaa. They left Lebanese airspace at 1140 hours over the occupied Shab'a farmlands.

At 1030 hours, four Israeli warplanes violated Lebanese airspace over Kfar Kila in a northerly direction as far as Al-Arz and Bushra. They circled between the North and the South, and then proceeded towards the Bekaa and circled between Baalbek, al-Hermel, Al-Arz and Beirut. They left Lebanese airspace at 1120 hours over Kfar Kila.

At 1805 hours, an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace over the sea off Tyre in an easterly direction. It circled over the southern regions and left Lebanese airspace at 2100 hours over Rmaich.

Land violations

At 2000 hours in the town of Al-Boustane, two bulldozers belonging to the Israeli enemy crossed the Blue Line in the direction of Lebanese territory on the outskirts of the town of Al-Boustane. They bulldozed an area of 6 metres by 300 metres and returned in the direction of occupied Palestinian territory at 2130 hours.

Subject: Israeli violations and acts of aggression against Lebanon from 0800 hours on 19 September 2006 to 0800 hours on 20 September 2006

Land violations

At 0900 hours, a bulldozer and trencher belonging to the Israeli enemy dug a trench and laid water pipes from west of the town of Ghajar in the direction of Al-Ouazzani spring inside Lebanese territory. At 1700 hours, the work ceased, and the bulldozer and trencher returned to the town of Ghajar.

Injuries resulting from mines, cluster bombs and unexploded ordnance

At 1640 hours, in Al-Bazouriye/Tyre, while a detachment of the 12th Engineering Brigade was detonating cluster bombs left behind by the recent Israeli aggression, one of them exploded, resulting in injury to Captain Muhammad 'Id in his right hand and back, and Lance Sergeant Ilyas Shuhda in his head and hand (the lance sergeant's condition is serious).

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Agenda items 13 and 100

The situation in the Middle East

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Sixty-first year

Identical letters dated 20 September 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I would like to report to you on some of the developments in South Lebanon after the adoption of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006) and the steps regarding the implementation thereof by the parties concerned.

In resolution 1701 (2006), paragraphs 4 and 8, the Security Council reiterated its strong support for full respect for the Blue Line, considering it one of the principles and elements of the permanent ceasefire and long-term solution.

While Lebanon is strictly implementing resolution 1701 (2006), it dismays me to note that Lebanon's resolve has not been met with equal Israeli compliance. In fact, Israel is still occupying Lebanese territories and is pursuing its daily violations of the said resolution. The following are some examples of recent and new violations:

- On 31 August, Israeli army units violated the Blue Line by establishing cement barricades all along the eastern and northern borders of the Lebanese part of Gajar village. The incursions are about 500 metres inside Lebanese territory. Such action constitutes a clear violation of Security Council resolutions 425 (1978) and 1701 (2006).

- Your report dated 12 September (S/2006/730) concluded that Israel has provided the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon with some maps regarding cluster-bomb strikes, which were found not specific enough to be of use to operators on the ground. Also, Lebanon needs to have precise maps of previously mined areas so that appropriate and very urgent demining operations can resume. There is no need to say how important the assistance is that we hope to receive from the United Nations in the huge task of

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eliminating the threat of cluster bombs and mines that affect the lives of large numbers of civilians.

- Lebanese airspace continues to be violated daily by Israeli reconnaissance and military warplanes. Paragraph 58 of the aforementioned report calls for the complete cessation of these Israeli over-flights in order to achieve sustainable permanent respect for the Blue Line.

- Recently, Israeli bulldozers advanced to the outskirts of Yarine village in the Tyre region and swept away large swathes of land and groves.

I would be grateful if you would address the above-mentioned Lebanese concerns in order to bring about the full implementation of resolution 1701 (2006) by Israel for the benefit of maintaining the essential requirements of a permanent ceasefire and a stabilized situation in South Lebanon and the region. I would also be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 13 and 100, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Caroline **Ziade**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Security Council

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General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda items 98 and 100

Security Council
Sixty-first year

Crime prevention and criminal justice

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Letter dated 18 September 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the pleasure to transmit herewith the text of the Madrid Declaration and Plan of Action on strengthening the legal regime against terrorism in West and Central Africa. These two documents were adopted at the conclusion of the Ministerial Round Table held in Madrid on 25 and 26 May 2006 with the participation of 26 countries of the region (see annex).

The Plan of Action sets out a programme of work to be implemented over the next two years with a view to strengthening, through bilateral technical assistance programmes and in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other international donors, national and regional legal and institutional frameworks for the appropriate and effective implementation of counter-terrorism measures.

I should be grateful if you would have these texts circulated as a document of the General Assembly under item 98 ("Crime prevention and criminal justice") and item 100 ("Measures to eliminate international terrorism") of the agenda for the sixty-first session, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Juan Antonio **Yáñez-Barnuevo**

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Annex to the letter dated 18 September 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Madrid Declaration and Plan of Action on strengthening the legal regime against terrorism in West and Central Africa

Adopted by the Madrid Ministerial Round Table of West and Central African Countries on a Counter-Terrorism Legal Framework

Madrid, 25-26 May 2006

Declaration

On 26 May 2006,

We, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Heads of delegations of the following countries: Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo, meeting in Madrid from 25 to 26 May 2006 within the framework of the United Nations;

In the presence of the following entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations: the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR); and of the following international and regional organizations: the African Union (AU) and its African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT), the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC), the Commonwealth Secretariat, the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), the European Union, the International Monetary Fund, Interpol, the World Bank;

1. Strongly condemn all acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations as criminal and unjustifiable, wherever and by whomsoever committed;[1]

2. Stress the importance of assisting victims of terrorism and of providing them and their families with support to cope with their loss and their grief;

3. Recognize that international cooperation to fight terrorism must be conducted in conformity with international law, including the Charter and relevant international conventions and protocols; commit ourselves that any measures taken to combat terrorism comply with our obligations under international law, in particular international human rights law, refugee law and international humanitarian law;

[1] General Assembly resolution 60/43 of 8 December 2005.

4. Welcome the adoption of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism adopted on 13 April 2005 during the 91st plenary meeting of the General Assembly by resolution 59/290 and the adoption of three amendments to three of the universal instruments against terrorism — Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (2005); Protocol to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation (2005); and Protocol to the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf (2005);

5. Stress the need to make every effort to reach an agreement on and conclude a comprehensive convention on international terrorism at the earliest possible;

6. Welcome the Secretary-General's report, "Uniting against terrorism: recommendations for a global counter-terrorism strategy", issued on 27 April 2006 (A/60/825), which contains recommendations for a global counter-terrorism strategy; and hope for the early adoption by the United Nations General Assembly of this strategy;

7. Commend the international, regional and subregional organizations represented in the Madrid Round Table for their active role and commitment;

8. Call upon, to that end, these organizations to promote a continuous dialogue and joint activities, reinforcing complementarities among them by further improving coordination and cooperation; and the West and Central African States to establish appropriate mechanisms for collaboration and coordination at the national and subregional levels with support from these organizations and institutions;

9. Welcome the adoption of the "Programme of Action 2006-2010 to strengthen the rule of law and criminal justice systems in Africa"[2] adopted by the delegations of 47 African countries at the end of the Round Table, "Crime and drugs as impediments to security and development in Africa: strengthening the rule of law", which took place from 5 to 6 September 2005 in Abuja, Nigeria, as well as the "African Union Plan of Action on the prevention and the fight against terrorism" and the central role of the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism in this field;

10. Request the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in cooperation with other international, regional and subregional organizations and contributing bodies and in coordination with the competent intergovernmental organisms, to continue its efforts to enhance, through its mandate reiterated by the General Assembly in its resolution 60/43 of 6 January 2006, the capabilities of the West and Central African States in the prevention of terrorism, and to assist them in becoming parties to and implementing the relevant international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism, and to strengthen international cooperation mechanisms in criminal matters related to terrorism, including through national capacity-building;

11. Commend the various initiatives to promote dialogue, tolerance and understanding among civilizations;

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[2] Welcomed by the General Assembly in paragraph 16 of its resolution 60/175 of 16 December 2005.

12. Express our sincere gratitude to the Kingdom of Spain, for having hosted and supported the Madrid Round Table of West and Central African Countries on a Counter-Terrorism Legal Framework, held at Madrid on 25 and 26 May 2006, and to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime which jointly organized it;

13. Adopt the Madrid Declaration on strengthening the legal regime against terrorism in West and Central Africa as well as the Plan of Action set out below for its implementation and proclaim our firm determination to pursue all appropriate measures for its expeditious implementation.

Plan of Action

We, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Heads of delegations of the West and Central African States present, commit ourselves to take the necessary steps, in accordance with the legal systems of our States, to:

1. Become party to all universal instruments against terrorism;

2. Sign the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism before the established deadline on 31 December 2006, and ratify it as soon as possible for its early entry into force;

3. Become party to the amendments to three of the universal instruments against terrorism: Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (2005); Protocol to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation (2005); and Protocol to the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf (2005);

4. Incorporate into the national legislation the relevant provisions of the universal legal instruments against terrorism in order to effectively prevent and suppress terrorism;

5. Provide training to national criminal justice officials in the application of the national counter-terrorism legislation implementing the universal instruments against terrorism and in international cooperation in criminal matters related to the universal instruments against terrorism, with the support of UNODC as well as the relevant regional and subregional organizations;

6. Complete the pending supplementary reports to the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) of the United Nations Security Council, within the time frame requested by these committees;

7. Enhance cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism more effectively, particularly through bilateral and multilateral arrangements and agreements, in accordance with the relevant provisions of United Nations Security Council resolution 1373 (2001);

8. Afford one another the greatest measure of assistance in connection with criminal investigations or criminal proceedings relating to the financing or support of terrorist acts, including assistance in obtaining evidence in their possession necessary for the proceedings, in accordance with United Nations Security Council resolution 1373 (2001);

9. Cooperate fully in the fight against terrorism, in accordance with our obligations under international law, including all the relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions, in order to find, deny safe haven and bring to justice, on the basis of the principle of "extradite or prosecute", any person who supports, facilitates, participates or attempts to participate in the financing, planning, preparation or commission of terrorist acts or provides safe havens;

10. Ensure required inter-ministerial coordination for the ratification of accession to the universal instruments against terrorism, the deposit of their instruments of ratification or accession, the legislative incorporation of their provisions as well as for the drafting of the reports to the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) of the United Nations Security Council;

11. Identify jointly with the Counter-Terrorism Committee, through its Executive Directorate, technical assistance needs for implementing Security Council resolution 1373 (2001);

12. Request UNODC to provide technical assistance, whenever necessary in coordination with OHCHR, in the following areas:

- Ratification of the universal legal instruments against terrorism and the implementation of their provisions as well as United Nations Security Council resolution 1373 (2001)
- Training of criminal justice officials in the application of the national counter-terrorism legislation which incorporates the universal instruments against terrorism
- Training of criminal justice officials in international cooperation in criminal matters related to the universal instruments against terrorism
- Specialization of judges and prosecutors on international cooperation in combating terrorism
- Drafting of national reports to the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the United Nations Security Council and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 of the Security Council
- Other assistance to enhance the capabilities of the West and Central African States in the prevention of terrorism, including related national capacity-building of national criminal justice systems, in accordance with its mandate reiterated by the General Assembly in its resolution 60/43 of 6 January 2006

13. Seek the widest possible technical support from specialized international, regional and subregional organizations in this area, in particular the International Monetary Fund, Interpol, the World Bank, the European Union, the African Union including its centre ACSRT for the implementation of its Plan of Action on the prevention of and fight against terrorism;

14. Seek from entities and agencies of the United Nations, the international community as well as subregional, regional and international organizations, technical assistance in the areas covered by resolution 1373 (2001) of the Security Council, such as for the supply of appropriate equipment and infrastructure with the support provided by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate;

15. Conduct annual evaluations of progress achieved with respect to the implementation of this Plan of Action by providing relevant information to UNODC.

We, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Heads of delegations of the West and Central African States present, invite the President of the Round Table to bring this Declaration to the attention of the Security Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations at its sixtieth ordinary session as well as to the appropriate bodies of the African Union.